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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
10 September 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation
(Report #27 - As of 4:00 p.m. EDT)

1. Heavy fighting continues in the Lahore area with a new Indian drive reported approaching the Lahore airport. The Pakistanis, meanwhile, claim their forces have advanced to within 20 miles of the Indian city of Amritsar. The Indians admit that artillery shells are falling on the city of Ferozepore, fifty miles south of Amritsar. The Indian drive from the Jammu area toward the northern Pakistani city of Sialket appears to be still under way but with Pakistani spokesmen claiming that they have repulsed repeated Indian efforts to make "tactical gains." In the air, Karachi reports that Pakistani planes caused extensive damage at air bases at Pathanket, Jodhpur and Jamnagar. Indian aircraft reportedly bombed the airfields at Lahore and Sargodha.

2. There are no reports of Indian troop movements into East Pakistan but New Delhi is charging the Pakistanis in that area with committing new acts of aggression against India. They charge that "several hundred" Pakistani paratroopers have landed in India's northeast border state of Assam, which is the major source of Indian oil. Pakistani planes are alleged to have attacked the important airfield at Baghdogra, 24 miles south of Darjeeling north of Calcutta. New Delhi has also reported that Indian positions along the East Pakistan border have been shelled during the day. Whether these charges are true or not, India now has prepared the way for any decision to carry the war into East Pakistan.

State Department review(s) completed.

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[redacted] there is developing a subdued murmur of complaint against the "Punjabi" (the West Pakistan Government) which will probably increase as shortages of food, kerosene, etc., become worse. Scattered signs of anti-Americanism, including hostility toward US personnel, is also reportedly developing in East Pakistan.

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5. U Thant's mission to Pakistan has ended with a Pakistani Government spokesman stating that his talks in Rawalpindi "have not brought a cease-fire in the war with India any closer." Thant's schedule calls for him to arrive in New Delhi on 12 September for talks with Indian officials. He plans to remain in the Indian capital for two days and then return directly to New York. An Indian Foreign Ministry official said that his country was prepared to give "most careful consideration" to any Thant proposals. Thant's apparent failure in Pakistan, however, eliminates nearly all hope for progress in New Delhi.

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7. The Yugoslav ambassador in New Delhi is described by Ambassador Bowles as taking the recent Chinese statements on the conflict seriously. He believes the failure of the Chinese to achieve success in Vietnam makes it all the more likely they will make a move in the Indian area.

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